



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP  
121 S.W. SALMON STREET, SUITE #1600  
ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER  
PORTLAND, OR 97204-2988

**COPY MAILED**

**DEC 30 2004**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Roberto Romero, Irina Buhimschi, and  
Robert Christner  
Application No. 10/713,791  
Filed: November 13, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 4239-67284-01

:  
:  
: **DECISION ACCORDING STATUS**  
: **UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)**  
:  
:

This is a decision on the "Request for Reconsideration of Petition under 37 CFR § 1.47(a)" filed October 14, 2004.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application was filed on November 13, 2003, without an executed oath or declaration. Roberto Romero, Irina Buhimschi, and Robert Christner were named as joint inventors. In response to a "Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application," mailed February 24, 2004, applicants filed the initial petition under §1.47(a)(and fee) and late surcharge under §1.16(l).

However, the petition was dismissed because the declaration submitted was not acceptable because it was not executed by all of the available joint inventors on behalf of the themselves and on behalf of the nonsigning inventors Roberto Romero, Irina Buhimschi, and Robert Christner.

The present petition includes a declaration executed by Roberto Romero on behalf of himself and nonsigning joint inventors Irina Buhimschi and Robert Christner. The declaration and the petition have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).

This application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status.

As provided in new Rule 1.47(c), this Office will forward notice of this application's filing to the non-signing inventors at the address given in the petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the Official Gazette.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center 1641 for appropriate action, including notifying applicant of the new status of this application.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3204.

Sherry D. Brinkley  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

ROBERT CHRISTNER  
C/O NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR FUNCTIONAL  
BRAIN IMAGING  
801 UNIVERSITY BLVD., SUITE 200  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87106

**COPY MAILED**

**DEC 30 2004**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Roberto Romero, Irina Buhimschi and  
Robert Christner  
Application No. 10/713,791  
Filed: November 13, 2003  
Title: METHODS AND KITS FOR DETER-  
MINING RISK OF PRE-TERM DELIVERY

LETTER

Dear Mr. Christner:

You are named as a joint inventor in the above-identified United States patent application filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 116 (United States Code) and 37 CFR 1.47(a), Rules of Practice in Patent Cases. Should a patent be granted on the application you will be designated therein as a joint inventor.

As a named inventor you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent attorney or agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join the application, counsel of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Telephone inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3204. Requests for information regarding your application should be directed to the File Information Unit at (703) 308-2733. Information regarding how to pay for and order a copy of the application, or a specific paper in the application should be directed to the Certification Division at (703) 308-9726 or 1-800-972-6382 (outside the Washington D.C. area).

Sherry D. Brinkley  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
For Patent Examination Policy

cc: KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP  
121 S.W. SALMON STREET, SUITE #1600  
ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER  
PORTLAND OR 97204-2988